

S W A

How soon doth man decay !
When cloths are taken from a chest of sweets,
To *swaddle* infants, whose young breath
Scourge knows the way ;
' Those cloths are little winding sheets,
Which do confine and fend them unto death. *Herbert.*
' They *swaddled* me up in my night-gown with long pieces of
linen, till they had wrapt me in about an hundred yards of
swathe. *Addison.*

2. To beat ; to cudgel. A low ludicrous word.
Great on the bench, great in the saddle,
That could as well bind o'er as *swaddle*. *Hudibras.*
SWADDLE. n. f. [from the verb.] Cloaths bound round the
body.
I begged them to uncase me : no, no, say they ; and upon
that carried me to one of their houses, and put me to bed in
all my *swaddies*. *Auldison.*

SWADDLINGBAND.
SWADDLINGCLOATH. } *n. f.* [from *swadle*.] Cloth wrapped
SWADDLINGCLOUT. } round a new-born child.

From thence a fairy thee unwetting rest,
Therewith thou sleepest in tender *swaddlingband*,
And her babe elfin brood, there for thee left,
Such men do changelings call, so changed by fairies theft.
Fairy Queen.
' That great baby you see there is not yett out of his *swaddling-*
clouts. *Shakspeare, Hamlet.*

The *swaddlingbands* were purple, wrought with gold. *Dryd.*
To *SWAG*. *v. n.* [Jugan, Saxon ; *swaigia*, Islandic.] ' To
sink down by its weight ; to lay heavy.
' They are more apt, in *swagging* down, to pierce with their
points, than in the jaquent posture, and crevice the wall. *Watt.*
Being a tall filly, and with his sides much compressed, he
hath a long sin up his back, and another answering to it on
his belly ; by which he is the better kept upright, or from
swagging on his sides. *Grew.*

To *SWAGE. v. a.* [from *asswage*.] To ease ; to soften ; to mi-
tigate.
Apt words have pow'r to *swage*
The tumours of a troubled mind,
And are as balm to fester'd wounds. *Milton.*
Nor wanting pow'r to mitigate and *swage*,
With solemn touches, troubled thoughts, and chafe
Anguish, and doubt, and fear from mortal minds. *Milton.*
I will leave thee,
' Though my distracted senses should forsake me,
I'd find some intervals, when my poor heart
Should *swage* itself, and be let loose to think. *Ottway.*

To *SWAGGER. v. n.* [*swaadder*, Dutch, to make a noise ;
Jpegan, Saxon.] To bluff ; to bully ; to be turbulently and
tumultuously proud and insolent.
Drunk ? fiquable ? *swagger* ? and discourse sullen with
one's own shadow ! Oh thou invincible spirit of wine ! *Shak.*
' 'Tis the rage of one that I should fight withal, if he be
alive ; a rascal that *swagger*'s with me last night. *Shakspeare.*
Oft a terrible oath, with a *swagger*-ing accent sharply twang'd
off, gives maudhood more approbation than proof itself. *Shak.*
The lesser size of mortals love to *swagger* for opinions, and
to boast infallibility of knowledge. *Glover, Scipio.*
Many such asses in the world huff, look big, flare, deaf,
cock, and *swagger* at the same noisy rate. *L'Estrange.*
He chuck'd,
And scarcely deign'd to set a foot to ground,
But *swagger*'d like a lord. *Dryden.*
Confidence, how weakly forever founded, hath some effect
upon the ignorant, who think there is something more than
ordinary in a *swaggering* man that talks of nothing but de-
monstration. *Tillesson.*

To be great, is not to be stretched, and formal, and superci-
lious ; to *swagger* at our footmen, and browbeat our inferi-
ors. *Collier on Pride.*
What a pleasure is it to be victorious in a cause ? to *swag-*
ger at the bar ? for a lawyer I was born, and a lawyer I will
be. *Arbuthnot's History of John Bull.*

SWAGGERER. n. f. [from *swagger*.] A blusterer ; a bully ; a
turbulent noisy fellow.
He's no *swaggerer*, hostess ; a tame cheater ; you may stroke
him as gently as a puppy greyhound. *Shakspeare, Henry IV.*

SWAGGY. adv. [from *swag*.] Dependent by its weight.
The beaver is called animal ventricosum, from his *swaggy*
and prominent belly. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*

SWAIN. n. f. [Jrein, Saxon and Runick.]
1. A young man.
That good knight would not so nigh repair,
Himself elstranging from their joyance vain,
Whose fellowship seem'd far unfit for warlike *swain*. *F. 2.*
2. A country servant employed in husbandry.
It were a happy life
To be no better than a homely *swain*. *Shakspeare, Henry VI.*

3. A pastoral youth.
Blest *swains* ! whose nymphs in every grace excel ;
Blest nymphs ! whose *swains* those graces grace to sell. *Pope.*

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SWA'INMOTE. *n. f.* [*swainmatus*, law Lat.] A court touching matters of the forest, kept by the charter of the forest three in the year. This court of *swainmote* is as incident to a forest, as the court of piepowder is to a fair. The *swainmote* is a court of freeholders within the forest. Coul.
To SWALE. *v. a.* [*swale*, Saxon, to kindle.] To wale or To SWEAL. *v. a.* blaze away; to melt: as, the candle fawles. Coul.
SWA'LET. *n. f.* Among the tin-miners, water breaking, in upon the miners at their work. Bailey.
SWA'LOW. *n. f.* [*swalepe*, Saxon.] A small bird of passage, or, as some say, a bird that lies hid and sleeps in the Winter. Bailey.
The *swallow* follows not Summer more willingly than your lordship. Shak. Timon of Athens.
Daffodils,
That come before the *swallow* dares. Shak. Measure.
The *swallows* make use of celandine, and the linnet of euphrasia. Mere.
When *swallows* fleet soar high and sport in air,
He told us that the welkin would be clear. Gog.
The *swallow* sweeps
The slimy pool, to build his hanging house
Intent. Thomson's Spring.
To SWA'LOW. *v. a.* [*swelgan*, Saxon; *swelgen*, Dutch.]
1. To swallow down my spiteful. Job vii. 19.
If little faults
Shall not be wink'd at, how shall we stretch our eye,
Whose capital crimes chew'd, *swallow'd*, and digested,
Appear before us? Shak. Henry V.
Men are, at a venture, of the religion of the country; and must therefore *swallow* down opinions, as silly people do empericks pills, and have nothing to do but believe that they will do the cure. Lact.
2. To receive without examination.
Confider and judge of it as a matter of reason, and not *swallow* it without examination as a matter of faith. Lact.
3. To engross; to appropriate.
Far be it from me, that I should *swallow* up or deftroy. 2Sa.
Homer excels all the inventors of other arts in this, that he has *swallow'd* up the honour of those who succeeded him. Petr.
4. To absorb; to take in; to sink in any abyss; to engulph.
Though you untie the winds, and let them fight
Against the churches, though the yefly waves
Confound and *swallow* navigation up. Shak. Measure.
I may be pluck'd into the *swallowing* womb
Of this deep pit, poor Baſilianus' grave. Shak. Tit. Andron.
Death is *swallow'd* up in victory. 1 Cor. xv. 54.
If the earth open her mouth and *swallow* them up, ye shall understand that these men have provoked the Lord. Num. xvi.
In bogs *swallow'd* up and lost. Milton.
He hid many things from us, not that they would *swallow* up our understanding, but divert our attention from what is more important. Decay of Piety.
Nature would abhor
To be forced back again upon herself;
And like a whirlpool *swallow* her own streams. Dryden and Lee's Oedipus.
Should not the sad occasion *swallow* up
My other cares, and draw them all into it? Addison.
Cities overturn'd,
And late at night in *swallowing* earthquake sunk. Thomson.
5. To devour; to deftroy.
The necessary provision for life *swallow'd* the greatest part of their time. Lact.
Corruption *swallow'd* what the liberal hand
Of bounty catter'd. Thomson's Autumn.
6. To be lost in any thing; to be given up.
The priest and the prophet are *swallow'd* up of wine. If.
SWA'LOW. *n. f.* [from the verb.] The throat; voracity.
Had this man of merit and mortification been call'd to account for his ungodly *swallowing*, in gorging down the estates of helpless widows and orphans, he would have told them that it was all for charitable uses. South.
SWA'LOWTAIL. *n. f.* A species of willow.
The shining willow they call *swallowtail*, because of the pleasure of the leaf. Bacon's Natural History.
SWA'LOWWORT. *n. f.* A plant.
SWAM. The pretence of *swim*.
SWAMP. *n. f.* [*swamm*, Gothic; *swan*, Saxon; *swamm*, Islandic; *swaume*, Dutch; *swamp*, Danish; *swamp*, Swedish.]
A marsh; a bog; a fen.
SWAMPY. *adj.* [from *swamp*.] Boggy; senny.
Swampy fens breathe destructive myriads. Thomson.
SWAN. *n. f.* [*swan*, Saxon; *swan*, Danish; *swan*, Swedish.]
The swan is a large water-fowl, that has a long and very straight neck, and is very white, excepting when it is young. Its legs and feet are black, as is its bill, which is like that of a goose, but something rounder, and a little hooked at the lower end of it: the two fides below its eyes are black and shining like ebony. Swans use wings like sails, which catch the wind, so that they are driven along in the water. They

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feed upon herbs and some sort of grain like a goose, and some
 are said to have lived three hundred years. There is a species
 of swans with the feathers of their heads, towards the breast,
 marked at the ends with a gold colour inclining to red. The
 swan is reckoned by Moles among the unclean creatures; but
 it was consecrated to Apollo the god of musick, because it was
 said to sing melodiously when it was near expiring; a tradition
 generally received, but fabulous. *Calmat.*

With untainted eye
 Compare her face with some that I shall show,
 And I will make thee think thy *swan* a crow. *Shakespeare.*
 Let musick found, while he doth make his choice;
 Then if he lose, he makes a *swan* like end. *Shakespeare.*

I have seen a *swan*,
 With bootles labour, swim against the tide,
 And spend her strength with over-matching waves. *Shakespeare.*
 The birds that are to be drawn are plainpades, or water-fowl,
 as the mallard, goose, and *swan*. *Peacham on Drawing.*

The fearful matrons raise a screaming cry;
 Old feeble men with fainter groans reply;
 A jarring found refuses, and mingles in the sky, *Dryden.*
 Like that of *swans* remurm'ring to the floods.

The idea, which an Englishman signifies by the name *swan*,
 is a white colour, long neck, black beak, black legs, and whole
 feet, and all these of a certain size, with a power of swim-
 ming in the water, and making a certain kind of noise. *Lodge.*

SWANSKIN. *n. f.* [*swan* and *skin*.] A kind of soft flannel,
 imitating for warmth the down of a swan.

SWAP. *adv.* [*ad swipa*, to do at a snatch, Islandick.] Hastily;
 with hasty violence: as, he did it *swap*. A low word.

To SWAP. *v. a.* To exchange. See *to SWOP*.

SWARD. *n. f.* [*sward*, Swedish.]

1. The skin of a bacon.
2. The surface of the ground: whence *green swards*, or *green swaid*.

Water, kept too long, loosens and softens the *swaid*, makes
 it subject to rushes and coarse grass. *Note on the text.*

The noon of night was past, when the fog
 Came dreaddles o'er the level *swaid*, that lies
 Between the wood and the swift streaming Ouse. *A. Phillips.*
 To plant a vineyard in July, when the earth is very dry
 and combustible, plow up the *swarth*, and burn it. *Maitiner.*

SWARE. The preterite of *swear*.

SWARM. *n. f.* [*swearm*, Saxon; *beem*, Dutch.]

1. A great body or number of bees; or other small animals, par-
 ticularly those bees that migrate from the hive.
 A *swarm* of bees that cut the liquid sky,
 Upon the topmost branch in clouds alight. *Dryden's Æn.*
2. A multitude; a crowd.
 From this *swarm* of fair advantages,
 You grip'd the general way into your hand,
 Forgot your oath to us at Doncaster. *Shakespeare.*
 If we could number up those prodigious *swarms* that had
 settled themselves in every part of it, they would amount to
 more than can be found. *Addison on Italy.*

To SWARM. *v. n.* [*swearm*, Saxon; *swermen*, Dutch.]

1. To rise as bees in a body, and quit the hive.
 All hands employ'd,
 Like labouring bees on a long Summer's day;
 Some found the trumpet for the rest to *swarm*. *Dryden.*
Swarm'd on a rotten stick the bees I spy'd. *Gay.*
 When bees hang in *swarming* time, they will presently rise,
 if the weather hold. *Mortimer's Husbandry.*
2. To appear in multitudes; to crowd; to throng.
 The merciles Macdonel,
 The multiplying villanies of nature
 Do *swarm* upon. *Shakespeare. Macbeth.*
 Our superfluous lacqueys, and our peasants,
 Who in unnecessary action *swarm*
 About our squares of battle. *Shakespeare. Henry V.*
 What a multitude of thoughts at once
 Awaken'd in the *swarms*, while I consider
 What from within I feel myself, and hear
 What from without comes often to my ears. *Milton.*
 Then mounts the throne, high plac'd before the shrine;
 In crowds around the *swarming* people join. *Dryden's Æn.*

3. To be crowded; to be over-run; to be thronged.
 These garrisons you have now planted throughout all Ire-
 land, and every place *swarms* with soldiers. *Spenser.*
 Her lower region *swarms* with all sort of fowl, her rivers
 with fish, and her seas with whole shoals. *Havel.*
 Those days *swarmed* with fables, and from such grounds
 took hints for fictions, poisoning the world ever after. *Brown.*

4. To breed multitudes.
 Not so thick *swarm'd* out once the foil
 Bedropp'd with blood of Gorgon. *Milton's Paradise Lost.*

SWART. } *adj.* [*swarts*, Gothic; *swear*, Saxon; *swart*,
 SWART. } Dutch.]

1. Black; darkly brown; tawney.
 A nation strange, with visage *swart*,
 And courage fierce, that all men did affray,
 Through the world then *swarmed* in every part. *F. Queen.*

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A man
Of *swarth* complexion, and of crabb'd hūe.
That him full of melancholy did flow.
Fair, Quere.
Whereas I was black and *swart* before;
With those clear rays which she infus'd on me.
That beauty am I best with; which you see. *Shak. H. VI.*
No goblin, or *swart* fairy of the mine,
Hath hurtful power o'er true virginity. *Milton.*
2. In *adultery* it seems to signify black; gloomy; malignant.
Ye valleys low,
On whose fresh lap the *swart* flax sparsely looks. *Milton.*
To *SWART*. *v. a.* [from the noun.] To blacken; to
darken.
The heat of the sun may *swart* a living part, or even black
a dead or dissolving flesh. *Brown's Vagab. Errors.*
SWARTHLILY. adv. [from *swartly*.] Blackly; dusklily; taw-
nily.
SWARTHTINESS. n. f. [from *swartly*] Darkness of complexion;
tawniness.
SWARTHY. adj. [See *SWART*.] Dark of complexion; black;
dusky; tawny.
Set me where, on some pathless plain,
The *swartly* Africans complain. *Rosemoun.*
Though in the torrid climates the common colour is black
or *swartly*, yet the natural colour of the temperate climates is
more transparent and beautiful. *Hale's Origin of Mankind.*
Here *swartly* Charles appears, and there
His brother with dejected air. *Addison.*
Did they know Cato, our remotest king
Would pour embattled multitudes about him;
Their *swartly* hofs would darken all our plains,
Doubling the native horror of the war,
And making death more grim. *Addison's Cato.*
SWASH. n. f. [A cant word.] A figure, whose circumference
is not round, but oval; and whose moldings lie not at right
angles, but oblique to the axis of the work. *Adams.*
To *SWASH. v. n.* To make a great clatter or noise; whence
swashbuckler.
We'll have a *swashing* and a martial outside,
As many other mannish cowards have,
That do outface it with their semblances. *Shakespeare.*
Draw, if you be men: Gregory, remember thy *swashing*
Shak. Rome and Juliet.
blow.
SWASHER. n. f. [from *swash*.] One who makes a show of
valour or force of arms.
I have observed these three *swashers*; three such antics do
not amount to a man. *Shakesf. Henry V.*
SWATCH. n. f. A swathe. Not in use.
One spreadeth those bands so in order to lie,
As barlie in *swatches* may fill it thereby. *Tusser.*
SWATH. n. f. [swade, Dutch.]
1. A line of grass cut down by the mower.
With toffing and raking, and setting on cox,
Grass, lately in *swatches*, is meat for an ox. *Tusser.*
The strawy Greeks, ripe for his edge,
Fall down before him, like the mower's *swath*. *Shakesf.*
As soon as your grass is mown, if it lie thick in the *swath*,
neither air nor sun can pass freely through it. *Martinet.*
2. A continued quantity.
An affection'd ass, that cons state without book, and nters
it by great *swaths*. *Shak. Twelfth Night.*
3. [Specan, to bind, Saxon.] A band; a fillet.
An Indian comb, a stick whereof is cut into three sharp and
round teeth four inches long; the other part is left for the
handle, adorned with fine straws laid along the sides, and
lapped round about it in several distinct *swaths*. *Grew.*
They swaddled me up in my night-gown with long pieces of
linen, which they folded about me, 'till they had wrapp'd me
in above an hundred yards of *swathe*. *Addison's Spectator.*
To *SWATHE. v. a.* [specan, Saxon.] To bind, as a child
with bands and rollens.
Thrice hath this Hotspur, Mars in *swathing* cloaths,
This infant warrior, and his enterprizes,
Discomfited great Douglas. *Shak. Henry IV.*
He had two sons; the eldest of them at three years old,
I 'th' *swathing* cloaths the other, from their nursery
Were stol'n. *Shakesf. Cymbeline.*
Their children are never *swathed*, or bound about with any
thing, when they are first born; but are put naked into the bed
with their parents to lie. *Alvart's Description of the World.*
Swath'd in her lap the bold nurse bore him out,
With olive branches cover'd round about. *Dryden.*
Master's feet are *swath'd* no longer,
If in the night too oft he kicks,
Or throws his loco-motive tricks. *Prior.*
To *SWAY. v. a.* [schweben, German, to move.]
1. To wave in the hand; to move or wield with facility: as, to
sway the scepter.
Glancing fire out of the iron play'd,
As sparkles from the anvil rise,
When heavy hammers on the wedge are *sway'd*. *Fair Quere.*